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## GARRISON QUILTS THE CABINET BECAUSE CONTINENTAL ARMY PLAN IS NOT FULLY SUPPORTED

Secretary of War Resigns Because President Wilson Would Not "Irrevocably" Support Continental Army Plan and Because He Opposes Administration's Program of Setting Definite Time for Philippine Independence—Assistant Secretary Breckinridge Also Resigns as Mark of Loyalty to His Chief—Both Resignations Are Accepted and President Will Assume Charge of Administration's National Defense Plans in Congress—No Successor Selected But Major General Hugh L. Scott Automatically Becomes Secretary of War Ad Interim

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Secretary Lindley M. Garrison resigned today because President Wilson would not "irrevocably" support the continental army plan and because he opposes the administration's program of setting a definite time for Philippine independence.

President Wilson accepted the resignation and has not selected a successor. The president himself probably will take personal charge of the administration's national defense plans in congress.

Assistant Secretary Breckinridge also resigned as a mark of loyalty to his chief, whose views he shared. The president accepted his resignation. Both take effect immediately. Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army automatically becomes secretary of war.

It is known that one of Secretary Garrison's principal reasons for his wholly independent air-Garrison contention that only a federal body could successfully handle the military affairs instead of a reconstituted National Guard, could be the main military dependency of the nation was the belief that some day the United States might be called upon to defend the Monroe doctrine, and that even in forecasting that the National Guard might not be available for use outside of the United States before a declaration of war.

Upon the contention on the one hand that the continental army, or national military service, was the nation's only reliance, and the position on the other, that no plan could be endorsed upon congress, President Wilson and his secretary of war joined official company.

Mr. Garrison's resignation was a complete surprise to official Washington. He made no personal explanations. Several hours before the official announcement he had been in train with his wife for New York, and word had been passed in the department that he had gone for an indefinite stay.

The acute differences of opinion which led to the break between him in the year when opposition to the continental army plan became dominant in congress. There had been independent rumors of the possibility of the secretary of war leaving the cabinet, but they never were countenanced in official quarters.

The secretary everywhere was regarded as one of the strong men of the administration, upon whom the president leaned in the difficult situations, both domestic and international, which have marked his administration.

The circumstances which led up to the resignation are detailed in the secretary's correspondence with the president, which was made public tonight by the White House. The president, the letters disclose, believes that the training, organization and control of a military reserve should be under immediate federal direction but is not "irrevocably or unconditionally committed to any one plan." He wrote Mr. Garrison that he could not form any specific plan on congress and added: "I must welcome a frank interchange of views and a patient and thorough comparison of all the methods proposed for obtaining the objects we all have in view."

Mr. Garrison's contention that only the plan of the war department could be considered seemed to the president

## RESIGNATIONS ARE SURPRISE TO WASHINGTON

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The resignation of Secretary of War Lindley M. Garrison came as a distinct surprise not only to Washington generally but to members of the cabinet. One cabinet officer said tonight that while he knew there was a difference of opinion between the president and Mr. Garrison over handling the army plans, he had no slight suspicion that an actual break was impending.

Although Mr. Garrison first suggested that he leave the cabinet last month, Mr. Wilson did not formally accept his resignation until late this afternoon when informed that Mr. Garrison had left for New York, and that rumors of his resignation were current. The president then dictated the letter of a cable and dispatched it immediately.

It was not until 8 o'clock tonight that formal announcement of the Garrison and Breckinridge resignations was made at the White House. Expressions of regret over the turn of affairs were general in the administration. The president thinks highly of Mr. Garrison's abilities and his name was seriously considered when the appointment of a successor to Secretary Lanning in the supreme court came under consideration.

Mr. Garrison left from the war department at noon, and a series of cables followed him to the Phillips' hall providing a short while for the sole member of the cabinet to leave the office.

Charles L. Gandy, chairman of the Clark-Lindley committee, told the Phillips' hall yesterday that the resignation of the secretary of war was imminent.

It is evident that the two disagree fundamentally upon what measures to be taken.

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